

filing. To combat potential abuse, debtors must disclose their full interest in such accounts in the statement of financial affairs filed with the bankruptcy court. With respect to education IRAs, there is no limit on the amount that may be excluded from the bankruptcy estate, though the size of education IRAs are effectively limited by the \$500 annual contribution limit. With respect to qualified State tuition savings programs, the excluded amount is the full, State-established amount deemed necessary to provide for the qualified education expenses of a beneficiary.

College savings accounts encourage families to save for college, thereby increasing access to higher education. In my home State of Utah, 775 children, with account balances nearing \$1.2 million, are beneficiaries of such accounts. Nationwide, over one million children benefit from such accounts. Bona fide contributions to such college savings accounts, which are made for the benefit of children, should be beyond the reach of creditors. The ability to use dedicated funds to pay the educational costs of current and future college students should not be jeopardized by a bankruptcy of their parents or grandparents. The amendment I offer today prevents bona fide educational accounts of children from being accessed by their parents' or grandparents' creditors, while also protecting this exclusion from being abused as a means of sheltering assets from the bankruptcy estate.

I urge your support of this amendment.

Mr. DODD. I ask unanimous consent I be able to speak for up to 2 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. DODD. I know this will be somewhat confusing to people watching the debate over the last 15 or 20 minutes, but this is an amendment offered by my distinguished friend and colleague from Utah of which I am a cosponsor. This is a very good amendment. We hope our colleagues will support it.

Many parents have put aside money for college education in special accounts. This ought not to be the subject of first attack when creditors come after family income.

I commend my colleague from Utah for trying to preserve and protect these resources which working families spend years trying to accumulate, and then get behind the 8 ball for problems that may not be of their own making, and all of a sudden the resources are subject to attack. This is a good amendment that will strengthen working families' ability to educate their children. I commend my colleague from Utah for offering it. I am pleased to be a cosponsor of it.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri.

Mr. BOND. I ask unanimous consent, notwithstanding the order for recess, I be permitted to speak for 2 minutes as in morning business.

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent, as part of the request of the Senator from Missouri, I be allowed to speak for up to 12 minutes. At the conclusion of the 12 minutes, I will call up an amendment.

Mrs. LINCOLN. I ask unanimous consent to be able to address the Senate as in morning business for 7 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The problem is, the previous order says 12:30 so we can attend policy conferences. That runs me past the time for making decisions as a part of that conference.

Is there a way to reduce the time so we can complete statements by 12:45?

Mr. BOND. I just asked for 2 minutes, and I will make it shorter than that.

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, the managers have asked Members to offer amendments. I am trying to offer an amendment. I need 11 minutes in order to present the amendment. I am trying to facilitate the progress on the bill. I thought this would be a good opportunity. It is a total of 11 minutes. The conferences don't really begin in earnest until 1 o'clock anyway.

I renew my request to be granted 12 minutes total.

Mrs. LINCOLN. I will certainly try to complete my statement in 5 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair objects.

#### RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now stand in recess until the hour of 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:35 p.m., recessed until p.m.; whereupon, the Senate reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer [Mr. INHOFE].

Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to proceed in morning business for 7 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### LITTLE ROCK NINE AND DAISY BATES

Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, mere words seem inadequate to honor the courage of some people and so I am humbled to lend my voice to the chorus of praise for the Little Rock Nine, who today will receive the Congressional Gold Medal, and I will also speak in remembrance of Daisy Bates, a daughter of Arkansas and a civil rights activist.

Receiving the medal today are: Jean Brown Trickery, Carlotta Walls LaNier, Melba Patillo Beals, Terrence Roberts, Gloria Ray Karlmark, Thelma Mothershed Wait, Ernest Green, Elizabeth Eckford, and Jefferson Thomas. As teenagers, when they bravely walked through the doors of Central High School in Little Rock, they led our Nation one step closer to social justice and equality. While it is still painful to look at pictures from that time, where white teens sneered at

their black peers, seeing the harsh face of hatred opened our Nation's eyes and propelled the civil rights movement forward.

Before the "Crisis of 1957," as some call the events at Central High, Little Rock was not associated with the pervasive segregation of the Deep South. In fact, Little Rock was considered quite a progressive place and some schools in Arkansas had already integrated following the Brown v. Board of Education decision in May of 1954. So, when nine students sought to integrate Central, few Arkansans envisioned a confrontation with the National Guard at the schools entrance. And I doubt many imagined the long-lasting, profound effects of this confrontation on the entire State. While the country witnessed countless images of this face-off, they were not necessarily aware of the continuing abuse endured by the Little Rock Nine, or the fact that Central High School had to be closed because the atmosphere was so hostile.

Now, we all know that the high school years aren't easy for any teenager. For these men and women, high school was inordinately difficult. In addition to enduring the verbal taunts and even beatings, some had to uproot to other schools in the middle of the school year. Luckily for Carlotta, Thelma, Ernest, Jefferson, and the others, a woman named Daisy Bates entered their lives as a "guardian angel" of sorts.

According to Daisy's own accounts and those of the Little Rock Nine, the students would gather each night at the Bates' home to receive guidance and strength. It was through the encouragement of Daisy Bates and her husband, L.C., that these young men and women were able to face the vicious and hateful actions of those so passionately opposed to their attendance at Central. Ironically, Daisy Bates passed away last Thursday. She was laid to rest this morning, the very day the Little Rock Nine will receive their medals. I know she is with us in spirit—acting again as a guardian angel to these brave men and women. This great woman leaves a legacy to our children, our State and our Nation: a love of justice, freedom, and the right to be educated. As a result of her efforts, the newspaper Mrs. Bates and L.C. published was forced to close. She and L.C. were threatened with bombs and guns. They were hanged in effigy by segregationists. But Daisy Bates persevered. She did all this, withstood these challenges, because she loved children and she loved her country. She had an internal fire, instilled in her during a childhood spent in Huttig, AR. And this strong character shone through as she willingly took a leadership role to battle the legal and political inequities of segregation in our state and the nation.

Many have called that confrontation at Central High an historic moment, a pivotal moment, a defining moment.